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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/766,474	01/19/2001	Tomohiro Mushiage	450100-02932	1042

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/766,474

Applicant(s)

MUSHIAGE, TOMOHIRO

Examiner

HUY T NGUYEN

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsumoto (5,729,651).

Regarding claim 17, Matsumoto discloses a superimposing apparatus (Fig. 1, column 2, lines 1-20)) comprising:

material reproducing means (2) including reproducing means for reproducing a material containing video and/or sound data from a nonlinear accessible recording medium, and a plurality of output processing means (Y,U,V) for receiving said material reproduced by said reproducing means outputting said material in an assigned time slot interval (time multiplexing interval) (Fig. 1B) and to outside (column 2, lines 40-68);

superimposition information generating means (6) for generating superimposition information including letter data or character data to be inserted in an image of said material (column 3, lines 8-42) ;

control means (10) for controlling reproducing operation of said material in said material reproducing means (column 3, lines 40-43, lines 50-55);

timing pulse generating means (9) for generating a timing pulse to be used to insert said superimposition information in said material, said timing pulse being supplied to said control means and said superimposition information generating means (column 3, lines 35-42, column 4, lines 1-15); and

combining means (4) for receiving said material reproduced and outputted from said material reproducing means controlled by said control means according to said timing pulse, and said superimposing information outputted from said superimposition information generating means according to said timing pulse, combining an image of said material with said superimposing information, and outputting a resultant image (column 3, lines 40-55).

Method claim 18 corresponds to apparatus claim 17, Therefore method claim 18 is rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claim 17.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-16 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art fails to teaches a recording and sending system material recording and sending system for recording and reproducing a material containing video and/or sound data into and from a nonlinear accessible recording medium in an assigned time slot comprising an operation means wherein said operation means comprises display means for hierarchically displaying resources including said recording

medium, said recording and reproducing means and said input/ output processing means of said material recording and reproducing means, and input channels and output channels of said selection means, according to connection situations as specified in claims 1 and 12. Method claims 7 and 14 correspond to apparatus claims 1 and 12. Therefore method claims 7 and 14 are allowed by the same reason as stated for apparatus claims 1 and 12.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Takahashi teaches a recording / reproducing apparatus having a display means for displaying information for a time slot recording/ reproducing apparatus. Yokoyama teaches editing apparatus for hierarchical displaying video data. Takahashi teaches displaying the operation of a recorder.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7378. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2616

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H.N


HUY NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER